

The CHESS Club for Providers

A Monthly Update for Users of Carolina's Health
Electronic Surveillance System

What's Happening In Region 3

For the next few issues of the CHESS Club for Providers, we are focusing on all 7 Regions around the state to allow you CHESS clubbers to get to know your regional epi. Also, we will be showing off the fantastic reporting many of the providers have been doing as well. So lets kick it off with three counties in Region 3 (Catawba): York, Chester, and Lancaster counties.

4 Questions For Your Regional Epidemiologist

1. How long have you worked for DHEC?

"I have been with DHEC since April 1991, starting with Children's Rehabilitative Services for 11 years before coming to the Division of Acute Disease Epidemiology as Disease Surveillance Regional Coordinator for Region 3. I started with the State with BabyNet, when it's infancy, Sept 1989 - April 1991."



Connie Marin

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2. Where is your home town?

"Home town is such a difficult word to describe and this has changed several times thru the years, depending on

where we were and what was asked. I was originally born and raised in New York City, in Manhattan. I went to Nursing School in St Petersburg, FL. then I started moving around the states and 3 foreign countries as a military wife, making 10 moves in 17 years, with children born in Texas and Mississippi. I finally settled in Charlotte (and still living there), but working in York, Chester and Lancaster Counties in SC."

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4 Questions For Your Regional Epidemiologist...Continued

3. What part of being a epidemiologist gives you the most satisfaction?

"Trying to educate others (I do like to talk) about their own health care, the prevention part, and also trying to identify the source or index piece of the puzzle."

4. List one reportable condition that makes you "sick" when you report it in CHESS?

"Pertussis is probably the one that "hits" close to home. The youngest little ones are the ones too young to have received their own immunization protection, and are exposed to parents, siblings, grandparents, and other adults."

Winthrop University Trailblazing for CHESS

Winthrop University, located in Rock Hill, SC has a student population of nearly 6,300. Health care has been provided for students on campus in the Crawford building since 1896. We are proud of our long and distinguished history, but we pride ourselves on being progressive and innovative as well.



Winthrop University Health Services has the unique distinction of being the first provider in the state to be part of the CHESS program. Having had some experience working with electronic reporting in other states, we realize how important it is to communicate reportable diseases quickly and doing it without paper is a plus.

Although we don't see a large volume of reportable diseases, we have found that being involved in this program has been a time saver. The support of the CHESS team and the DHEC Epi staff has been invaluable. We would encourage all South Carolina providers to get on board with Winthrop and others around the state who are part of the CHESS program. It's been a positive experience in every way.



Things To Remember...

An important reminder for labs:

For diseases noted with a (7) on the S.C. 2008 List of Reportable Conditions, all labs should submit these isolates and positive serologies to the DHEC Bureau of Laboratories for confirmatory testing, serotyping, serogrouping, or genotyping.



Please log into CHESS at least once a month, even if you don't have a disease to report. This keeps your account active and lets us know that you are still able to log in. If you have trouble logging in, you can let us know right away and we can correct the problem before you need to enter data.

- ◆ If you are unable to log into CHESS, you may have a password problem. Call the CHESS Help Desk at 1-800-917-2093.
- ◆ Never share your password with anyone else.
- ◆ Never allow another users to use CHESS under your login.
- ◆ Always log out of CHESS when you are finished using it. CHESS will automatically logs you out after 20 minutes of inactivity.



In The Spotlight "Botulism, Foodborne, Other (includes wound)"

CHESS Condition: Botulism, foodborne, other (includes wound)

Clinical Description: Foodborne: Ingestion of botulinal toxin results in an illness of variable severity. Common symptoms are diplopia, blurred vision, and bulbar weakness. Symmetric paralysis may progress rapidly.

Other (includes wound): An illness resulting from toxin produced by *Clostridium botulinum* that has infected a wound.

Laboratory criteria for confirmed and probable diagnosis:

Botulism Foodborne

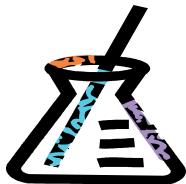
- Detection of botulinal toxin in serum, stool, or patient's food, or
- Isolation of *Clostridium botulinum* from stool

Confirmed: a clinically compatible illness that is laboratory confirmed or that occurs among persons who ate the same food as persons with laboratory-confirmed botulism.

Botulism, other (includes wound)

- Detection of botulinal toxin in serum or
- Isolation of *Clostridium botulinum* from wound

Confirmed: a clinically compatible illness that is laboratory confirmed among patients with no suspect food exposure and with a history of a fresh, contaminated wound in the 2 weeks before onset of symptoms.



REPORTING Botulism is reportable immediately by phone in South Carolina. Please see the 2008 List of Reportable Conditions for more information:

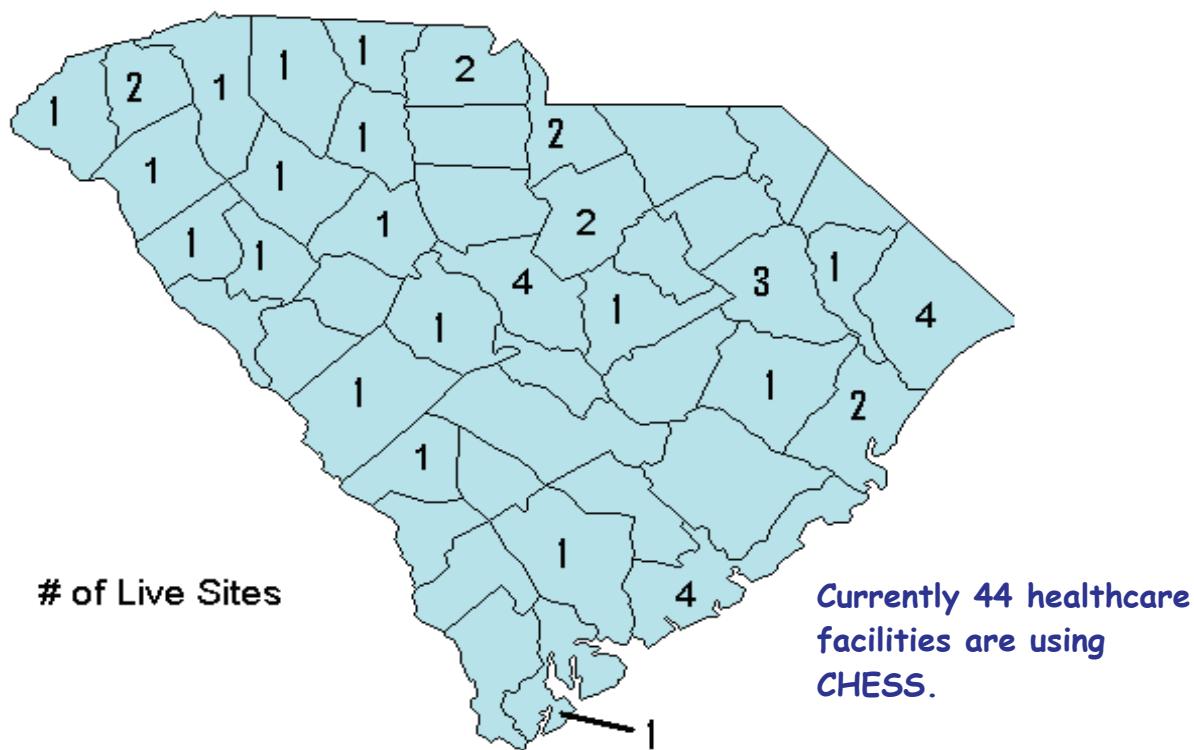
http://www.scdhec.gov/health/disease/docs/reportable_conditions.pdf

CHESS LIVE—Complete Listing of Providers

- ◆ Aiken Regional Medical Ctr.
- ◆ AnMed Health
- ◆ Abbeville Count Hospital
- ◆ Barnwell County Hospital
- ◆ Benedict College Student Health Center
- ◆ Cannon Memorial Hospital
- ◆ Carolina Hospital System
- ◆ Carolina Infectious Disease and Critical Care Associates
- ◆ Lake City Memorial Hospital
- ◆ Laurens County
- ◆ Charleston Air Force Base
- ◆ Colleton Hospital
- ◆ Columbia College Gray Health Center
- ◆ Conway Hospital
- ◆ Coastal Carolina University Health Center
- ◆ Crossroads Family Practice and Urgent Care
- ◆ East Cooper Regional Medical Center
- ◆ Eau Claire Cooperative Health Centers
- ◆ Edgefield County Hospital
- ◆ Family Medical Center of Blackville
- ◆ Georgetown Memorial Hospital
- ◆ Grand Strand Regional Medical Center
- ◆ Kershaw County Medical
- ◆ Loris Community Hospital
- ◆ Lifepoint, Inc.
- ◆ Marion County Medical Center
- ◆ MUSC Family Medicine
- ◆ New Day Family Practice
- ◆ Newberry County Hospital
- ◆ North Central Family Medical Center
- ◆ Oconee Memorial Hospital
- ◆ Palmetto Baptist Easley
- ◆ Parris Island Preventive Medicine
- ◆ Providence Hospital
- ◆ Three Rivers Behavioral Health
- ◆ Pee Dee Family Practice
- ◆ Self Memorial Hospital
- ◆ Sentinel Health Partners (Elgin)
- ◆ Shaw Airforce Base
- ◆ Spartanburg Regional Medical Center
- ◆ Upstate Carolina Medical Center
- ◆ Wallace Thompson Hospital
- ◆ Williamsburg Regional Hospital
- ◆ Winthrop University Health Center
- ◆ Waccamaw Community Hospital



CHESS Live Around the State...



WELCOME NEW CHESS Users

Welcome, welcome, welcome to our newest CHESS Clubbers all the way from Region 6, Grand Strand Regional Medical Center (Winona McLamb); Crossroads Family Practice and Urgent Care (Dr. Amanda Flynn) in Region 2; Family Medical Center of Blackville (Pam Rush and Lucile Miller) in Region 5; and Edgefield Hospital (Gail Thorne, Gail Wren, and Connie Bull Stillinger) over in Region 1. We are delighted that you are now a part of our disease reporting CHESS family.

We are making great strides to deploy CHESS to hospitals and medical facilities each month!

Frequently Asked Questions



Are there any CHESS questions you would like answered? If so, please email your questions to: CHESSCARESIR@dhec.sc.gov. We will feature your questions in the next issue of the CHESS Club for Providers newsletter.

Question: Can I add a disease report in CHESS for an out of state patient?

Answer: It is best to submit reports directly to the state in which the patient lives. However, if you enter another state's disease report into CHESS, we will make sure that it gets to the appropriate state. For more information about reportable diseases in our neighboring states please see:

Georgia: <http://health.state.ga.us/epi/disease/stats.asp>
North Carolina: <http://www.epi.state.nc.us/epi/gcdc.html>

Question: I can't find the provider that I need for a report that I am entering in CHESS. What should I do?

Answer: We try to keep the provider lists updated, but it is far from perfect. If you cannot find a provider, please enter the information, including name, address, and phone number at the bottom of the Report Information tab under "comments". We will use that information to update the provider list in CHESS.

Question: I Think CHESS is down.

Answer: Call the CHESS/CARES IR Help Desk immediately to report the problem. Please do not wait to report a problem, you may be the first person to notice something. The sooner we know about the problem, the sooner we can help.

By The Numbers—South Carolina 2008 So Far

Condition	Confirmed	Probable	Total
Animal Bite—PEP Recommended	287	0	287
Aseptic meningitis	81	0	81
Botulism, Infant	1	0	1
Brucellosis	1	1	2
Campylobacteriosis	191	0	191
Ciguatera fish poisoning	0	0	0
Cryptosporidiosis	1	1	2
Cyclosporiasis	0	0	0
Dengue Fever	0	1	1
Ehrlichiosis, Chaffeensis	0	1	1
Encephalitis, Eastern Equine	1	0	1
Encephalitis- West Nile	0	0	0
Enterohem. E.coli O157:H7	1	0	1
Enterohem.E.coli shigatox+- ?serogrp	1	0	1
Giardiasis	93	0	93
Group A Streptococcus- invasive	52	0	52
Group B Streptococcus- invasive	36	0	36
Haemophilus influenzae- invasive	40	1	41
Hansen Disease (Leprosy)	1	0	1
Hemolytic uremic synd- postdiarrheal	0	0	0
Hepatitis A- acute	13	0	13
Hepatitis B- acute	44	1	45
Hepatitis B virus infection—Chronic	85	352	437
Hepatitis B virus infection—Perinatal	0	0	0
Hepatitis C- acute	3	0	3
Hepatitis C Virus Infection- past or present	3,165	104	3,269
Hepatitis Delta co- or super-infection- acute	0	0	0
Hepatitis E- acute	0	0	0
Influenza- human isolates	254	0	254
Legionellosis	11	0	11
Listeriosis	3	0	3
Lyme disease	9	9	18
Malaria	8	0	8
Mumps	0	0	0
Neisseria meningitidis- invasive (Mening. disease)	19	1	20
Pertussis	80	12	92
Rocky Mountain spotted fever	4	40	44
S. aureus, vancomycin intermediate susc (VISA)	0	0	0
Salmonellosis	819	2	821
Shiga toxin-producing Escherichia coli (STEC)	32	3	35
Shigellosis	440	11	451
Strep pneumoniae- invasive	400	0	400
Streptococcal disease- invasive- other	1	0	1
Typhoid Fever (Salmonella Typhi)	2	0	2
Toxic-shock syndrome- staphylococcal	0	0	0
Varicella (Chickenpox)	393	290	683
Vibrio parahaemolyticus	3	0	3
Vibrio spp.- non-toxigenic- other or unspecified	4	0	4
Vibrio vulnificus infection	3	0	3
West Nile Fever	0	2	2
Yersiniosis	4	0	4

The Bulletin Board

Save the Date

Are you hosting an event? Are there any events you would like to see posted? Is there an event you would like the CARES IR/CHESS training team to attend? If so, please send event information to:

CHESSCARESIR@dhec.sc.gov

Or call the CHESS/CARES IR Help Desk at **1-800-917-2093**

Keep In Touch

~The Help Desk ~

Your input is important to us! So please call us with your comments and suggestions. If you need to add new users we are here to support your CHESS use. If you have a questions, your CHESS training team is only a phone call away!

Ring the Help Desk Line @ **1-800-917-2093**

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